Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

The Past Week

This was a difficult and frustrating week. On Wednesday, over 39 years after the murder of Wendy Jerome, a mistrial was declared due to jury issues in the People vs. Timothy Williams. This is difficult for Wendy's family, the community, and my office. While it is unfortunate that we did not secure justice for Wendy this week, we will. I will take this case to trial again in the New Year.

Yesterday was supposed to be the resolution of the People vs. Kelvin Vickers. I walked into my office yesterday morning and put the finishing touches on my comments for sentencing which I have been thinking about for nearly two months. I was ready to meet with Lynn Mazurkiewicz and Officer Mazurkiewicz's family, the families of Richard Collinge and MyJel Rand, and many officers of the Rochester Police Department.

I was prepared for Judge Hahn to sentence Kelvin Vickers to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections Without the Possibility of Parole because that is the only sentencing option for a conviction of Aggravated Murder of a Police Officer. Instead, sentencing was postponed. One thing is certain, I will do everything in my power to protect the integrity of these convictions and ensure that when it is time for Kelvin Vickers' sentencing there is no room for questions or errors.

Do I feel good about what happened inside and outside the courtroom this week? No. Watching multiple families leave courtrooms distraught this week was heartbreaking. But I am more committed to finding justice for these victims than ever.

The job of an attorney, especially a prosecutor, is not a straight path. There are bumps and delays. We have the best criminal justice system in the world for a reason, and as a public servant, I will always abide by the law. These complications will not cause me to be discouraged and I will continue to fight for victims. I will try the case against Timothy Williams and I will find justice for 14-year-old Wendy Jerome. I will ensure that the friends and family of Officer Anthony Mazurkiewicz, Officer Seng, Richard Collinge, and MyJel Rand have an opportunity to share their victim impact statements with the court and Kelvin Vickers. I will continue to fight for these families and the residents of Monroe County.

This job is not easy and it is not about trial records. Being the Monroe County District Attorney is about the fair and ethical administration of justice. I will always do what is right and I will always do my best.

Sandra

Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total: 54

Monroe County Total: 60

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

Alonzo Jones was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Attempted Murder Aggravated Murder, Attempted Aggravated Assault Upon a Police Officer or Peace Officer, and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for shooting at a Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy in the Town of Henrietta. On June 2, 2022, Monroe County Sheriff's Deputies responded to Carrabba's Italian Grill, a restaurant in Henrietta, for a call of a man with a gun in the bar. Monroe County Sheriff's Deputies made contact with the defendant, Alonzo Jones, in the restaurant and began talking to him in an effort to deescalate the situation. During the attempted de-escalation, Alonzo Jones picked up a revolver and shot at the head of Deputy Nicholas Cooper. Deputy Cooper was not injured and the bullet struck the wall three feet to the right of his head. The responding Monroe County Sheriff's deputies returned fire and arrested Alonzo Jones. Nobody, including the defendant, was injured during this altercation. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mathew Schwartz, Chief of the Major Felony Bureau.

Khyree Baker was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the possession of an illegal, loaded firearm on November 25, 2022. This case was investigated by the New York State Police and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Caranante. Khyree Baker will be sentenced on January 24, 2024, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

Jahquan Majors was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree for the possession of an illegal firearm on March 18, 2023. This case was investigated by the New York State Police and the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau. Jahquan Majors will be sentenced on January 30, 2024, by New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair.

James Orr was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Judith Sinclair to 50 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. James Orr was previously convicted by a jury of two counts of Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child for the sexual abuse against an eleven year old girl. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and the New York State Division of Parole. This abuse occurred on January 30, 2022. The defendant and the victim were strangers to each other. Because of his history and his status on the sex abuse registry, James Orr was civilly committed on parole at the time of the sexual assault. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Robertson, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Walsh sentenced 30-year-old Joshua Williams to 25 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. Williams was previously convicted by a jury of Murder in the Second Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the murder of Willie Wofford. On July 5, 2022, at approximately 2:38AM, Rochester Police Officers were called for multiple gunshots on North Clinton Avenue in the City of Rochester. Due to the chaotic scene, an ambulance was unable to get to the victim. Rochester Police Officers immediately began performing life-saving measures on Willie Wofford who had been shot five times, before he was transported by a patrol car to Strong Memorial Hospital. He died from his injuries at the hospital. After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Joshua Williams was identified as the assailant responsible for Willie Wofford's murder. Following the shooting, he fled the state and was arrested in North Charleston, South Carolina. The Rochester Police Department was assisted by the United States Marshal Task Force Charleston County Officers. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, also of the Major Felony Bureau.

William Shanahan was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Alex Renzi to 9-18 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. He was previously convicted of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, Aggravated Vehicular Assault, Vehicular Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, Vehicular Assault in the 1st Degree, Vehicular Assault in the 2nd Degree, Criminally Negligent Homicide, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger, Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child for causing the death of 33-year-old Dustin Jones. On August 3, 2021, around 6:45 AM, William Shanahan was heading eastbound on 190 in the Town of Henrietta when he began driving erratically, serving from the right lane to the left lane and flipping his vehicle multiple times. All passengers were ejected from the vehicle, including a 2-year-old child, a 7-year-old child, an adult male, and an adult female. Dustin Jones was immediately transported to the hospital, where he died from his injuries. Another passenger in the same vehicle was taken to the hospital with serious physical injuries and both children were taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. After a thorough investigation by the New York State Police, it was determined that William Shanahan was under the influence of methamphetamine at the time of the crash. The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Janna Koch, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Stephen Butler was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Judith Sinclair to 2-6 years in the New York State Department of Corrections and restitution of \$100,000. He previously pled guilty to Grand Larceny in the 2nd Degree and Identity Theft in the 1st Degree. Between December 1, 2017 and March 31, 2019, Stephen Butler defrauded a couple of over \$100,000 dollars including over \$2,000 made in fraudulent credit card charges. He charged the couple up front for maintenance and repairs on the couple's home and vehicle that were never made or attempted. This case was investigated by the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karina Pinch, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Brandon Fagan was indicted on Forgery of a Vehicle Identification Number and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal use of a vehicle on October 9, 2022 and October 10, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Lamon, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Yessmarie Colon was indicted on Driving While Intoxicated, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree, Unlawful Fleeing A Police Office in a Motor Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, Obstructing Governmental Administration in the 2nd Degree, Use Leased/Rented/Loaned Vehicle Not Equipped With Interlock Device, Reckless Driving, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 2nd Degree in relation to a vehicular matter on August 11, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jason Espinosa, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Qwandah Tucker was indicted on Assault in the 1st Degree relation to a shooting on June 27, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam VanHeyst, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Donovan Trim was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on November 20, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Nihzire Allah was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd Degree, six counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of illegal narcotics and firearms. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jamel Robinson was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and Assault in the 1st Degree in relation to the death of Kevin Rigdon and attempted murder of another individual. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

Jordan Boards, Julio Cruz, Wilfredo Cruz-Rivera, and Damar Hughes were indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree. Jordan Boards, Julio Cruz, and Wilfredo Cruz-Rivera were also all charged with four counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and an additional count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree. Wilfredo Cruz-Rivera was charged with another additional count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree as well. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Samantha Cook was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, and Reckless Driving in relation to the possession of a stolen vehicle. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Caroline Rodriguez, of the General Felony Bureau.

Stephen Phillips was indicted on Strangulation in the 2nd Degree, in relation to an incident on August 4, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Jaheem Diggs and Jordan Leslie were indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on November 12, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Hector Carlo was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a weapon on November 12, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Timothy Boucher, Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Quintel Crockton was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree in relation to the death of Terran Felder. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

Juan Garcia was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on October 27, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Timothy Jones, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on February 18, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Malik Scales was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on December 7, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Gene Eberhart was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on November 4, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Henry Hill was indicted on two counts of Failure to Register or Verify as a Sex Offender. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara VanStrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

Mohamud Ali was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of illegal narcotics on November 6, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jaliyla Shelton and **Leon Woods** were indicted on two counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree and three counts of Attempted Robbery in the 2nd Degree in relation to the robbery of a woman on November 9, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ellie Laloudakis, of the Youth Part/Major Felony Bureau.

Michael Tabon, Jr. was indicted on Arson in the 4th Degree in relation to the reckless damage to a building in the City of Rochester on November 10, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau.

John Ortega was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, and three counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of illegal narcotics on November 10, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Bradford Abraham was indicted on Robbery in the 1st Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree in relation to an armed robbery on October 11, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Lights on for Life

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and Assistant District Attorney Ray Benitez, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, attended the annual Stop-DWI Lights on for Life Motorcade. Thank you to Monroe County and STOP-DWI for continuing this important tradition and your ongoing commitment to public safety. This event serves to remember the many victims of DWI and to remind our community to make smart decisions before driving this holiday season. Remember, when you feel different, you drive different!



Welcome to the DA's Office!

ADA Sarah Pittman was sworn in as an Assistant District Attorney this week. Welcome, Sarah!



MCDA in the News

https://www.whec.com/top-news/if-you-feel-different-you-will-drive-different-motorcade-honors-those-affected-by-dwi/

https://13wham.com/news/local/mistrial-declared-in-rochester-cold-case

https://www.whec.com/top-news/trial-of-man-accused-of-1984-murder-ruled-mistrial/

https://13wham.com/news/local/man-sentenced-for-sexually-abusing-11-year-old-girl-james-orr-sex-abuse-registry-rochester

https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/12/06/wendy-jerome-murder-mistrial-timothy-williams-1984-rocheser-ny-cold-case/71824111007/

https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-gets-50-to-life-in-sex-abuse-of-11-year-old/

https://13wham.com/news/local/testimony-in-timothy-williams-trial-focuses-on-forensic-evidence-from-14-year-old-wendy-jeromes-rape-and-murder-rochester-thanksgiving-1984-webster-avenue-school-33

https://www.whec.com/top-news/how-familial-dna-played-a-key-role-in-1984-murder-trial/

https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/12/04/nicholas-forbes-testifies-in-familial-dna-murder-trial-in-rochester-ny/71769457007/

https://www.whec.com/top-news/elder-parole-bill-may-be-considered-in-next-session/

https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2023-11-28-rochester-man-indicted-in-fatal-shooting-near-transit-center/

https://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/man-sentenced-for-predatory-sexual-assault-against-a-child/

https://13wham.com/news/local/wny-man-sentenced-for-driving-while-high-on-meth-during-2021-fatal-crash-on-thruway-william-shanahan-rochester-henrietta-west-seneca

https://www.whec.com/top-news/sentencing-of-man-convicted-of-killing-rochester-police-officer-two-others-postponed/

https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/kelvin-vickers-expected-to-besentenced-thursday-afternoon/



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